

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 and 44-47 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 17 and 19 are amended. The amendments to claim 17 are supported in the original specification at, for example, Fig. 5 and page 13, line 5 - page 16, line 8. Claim 19 is amended to be consistent with amended claim 17. Thus, no new matter is added by the above amendments.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-16, 22-36 and 44-47, and the identification of allowable subject matter in claim 21. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17-20 are patentable for at least the reasons set forth below.

Claims 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,819,783 to Goldberg et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 has been amended to further clarify that the fifth step sums up the number of the print orders for all images received from the plurality of different viewers accepted within a predetermined period of time, and to clarify that the sixth step produces prints based on the number of the summed-up print orders. Goldberg et al. does not disclose or suggest these features. The Office Action relies upon col. 21, lines 11-67 of Goldberg et al. with respect to the fifth and sixth steps of claim 17. However, this portion of Goldberg et al. merely indicates that multiple images of a patron can be collected and packaged as an album or that if patrons are visiting the entertainment venue in a group, their photographic images could be collected together into a single album. Goldberg et al. does not disclose or suggest summing up the number of print orders for all images from the plurality of different viewers accepted within a predetermined period of time and then producing prints based on the number of summed-up print orders, as recited in independent claim 17. Accordingly, Goldberg et al. does not disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in independent claim 17. Thus, claims 17-20 are patentable over Goldberg et al. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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